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CLASSIFICATION SECRETSECURITY INFORMATION
REPORTCOUNTRY East GermanyTOPIC Soviet Troops in the Area of East Berlin

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 5 August 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 21 and 22 July 1953, [] about 80 to 100 trucks, about 30 JS tanks, and 4 SU-100 guns in the park immediately southeast of the south railroad station in Biesdorf. Several tent camps were seen. []

2. On 22 July, [] major Soviet tank elements in the Karlshorst-Biesdorf-Wuhlheide area. [] troops wore new uniforms and looked clean. []

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3. On 21 July, the Biesdorf Stadtpark was off limits for civilians and was occupied by a Soviet unit, which was quartered in numerous small tents. About 35 to 40 SP guns, about 20 armored scout cars, and about 40 trucks [] were seen with the troops. Truck [] left the park. []

5. On 21 July, [] a Soviet unit had bivouacked in the Wuhlheide and had left a few days ago. Fresh imprints of tracks of 20 tanks, and places where tents had been pitched were observed. []

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6. Between 22 and 24 July, 15 SP guns, which [] were SU-100 guns; about 10 tanks, about 25 trucks mounting AA machine guns; another 40 to 50 motor vehicles and 10 to 12 house tents, as well as troops wearing red-bordered black epaulettes, including some with tank insignia; and black-bordered crimson epaulettes, were east of the Biesdorf Stadtpark. []

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7. Between 20 and 24 July, Soviet troops, vehicles, tent camps and temporary one-story buildings were seen in the park southeast of the Biesdorf railroad station. On 20 July, about 600 to 700 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia; and black-bordered crimson epaulets, watched a game of soccer on the athletic field beside this assembly area.

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8. On 22 and 23 July, about 120 troops wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets received infantry field training, and another 60 troops engaged in close-combat practice in the Wuhlheide. The troops were quartered in tents. No heavy weapons were observed.

9. Heavy vehicular traffic

was observed in the Karlshorst restricted area.

10. Between 19 and 23 July, the area of the troop camp in Wuhlheide had been reduced to the area west of the road from Kopenick to the south railroad station in Wuhlheide and east of the road from Ostend to the south railroad station in Wuhlheide. Trucks, loaded with sections of prefabricated one-story buildings and timber, arrived there. Motor vehicles seen en route to this area

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11. On 24 July, a troop camp was observed in the woods east of the Biesdorf railroad station. It included about 40 groups each of 5 tents, about 100 trucks with covered numbers, including some loaded with pontoons; and about 20 JS-3 tanks. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets.

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12. On 23 July, source observed Soviet troops in the Biesdorf Stadtpark. The Globower Strasse and Waldbacher Weg along the embankment were blocked. At least 100 two and three-axle trucks were at the west and north edge of the Stadtpark, and 12 T-34 tanks were seen in the park. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Trucks were seen en route to this quartering area.¹

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13. A railroadman stated that, on 15 July, 10 shipments of heavy tanks, trucks and billeting equipment were unloaded in Biesdorf. The troops allegedly left by road toward Marzahn.²

14. On 23 July, Soviet troops were in the wooded area, about 1.5 km southeast of the Karlshorst railroad station, 1 km southwest of the south railroad station in Wuhlheide and bordered to the south by the An der Wuhlheide highway. Double sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia patrolled the area. Noises of tank engines were continually heard from the woods. About 10 trucks and 2 house tents were observed. Truck loaded with laundry and occupied by eight soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, was seen en route toward the woods, coming from the direction of Karlshorst.¹

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15. On 23 July, sedans [redacted] were identified at Alexanderplatz.

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16. On 22 July, a troop camp was determined at the eastern end of the Hoppegarten racecourse in a wood patch between the racecourse and the Frankfurter Chaussee. [redacted]

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[redacted] Truck [redacted] driver of which wore red-bordered black epaulets, entered the camp.³

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1. [redacted] Comment. The information confirms units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div in the Biesdorf area: and units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div [redacted]

The observation of low wooden buildings in Wuhlheide and, according to the last [redacted] report, in the Biesdorf area, tends to indicate that the troops will stay for a rather long period of time. The information on the reducing of the bivouacking area accounts for the data contained in paragraph 5. The large number of SP guns and JS tanks in the Biesdorf area tends to indicate that the 82d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 6th Gds Mecz Div was also stationed there, although pertinent information on shipments from Eberswalde to Berlin has not been obtained so far. The pontoons possibly belong to the 22d Gds Engr Bn of the division which, on 1 July, transferred from Bernau to Jerichow and, upon completion of the exercises, presumably transferred to Berlin.

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2. [redacted] Comment. Available information indicates that the shipments to the Biesdorf area started only on 16 July. [redacted]

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3. [redacted] Comment. This troop camp is mentioned for the first time. [redacted]

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